

Colossians 1:3-29

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I. Introduction.

II. Paul immediately draws attention to God.

III. He reminds them of their faith and love.

A. Faith binds to God.

B. Love binds one to another. (John 13:35)

C. Love is an evidence of faith.

IV. He reminds them of hope. (Hebrews 1:3-5)

A. We have an assurance of heaven.

B. It is important to know this for sure.

C. You can know that you have eternal life.

D. Two people cannot pay for the same crime - either Jesus paid for it, or you will.

V. The gospel of Jesus Christ accomplishes much good in this world it is a shame that it is not being spread around more. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

VI. The Colossians learned the gospel from Epaphras - they needed more than to just hear it.

VII. Paul was on his knees in prayer for Colossians that they might know the will of God and do it, that their lives might please the Lord through fruit bearing, growth and manifesting a joyful heart in the midst of trials.

A. Trials come and are part of life.

B. Endurance and perseverance to not come from fleshly effort.

C. We are strengthened according to the power of God.

VIII. God is in the redemption business, taking our sins away. (Psalm 103:12, Micah 7:19, Isaiah 43:25, 44:22)

IX. If you want to know what God is like, take a look at Jesus.

X. We have been forgiven and brought to new life. (Mark 2:5, Ephesians 2:1)

XI. Christ the creator and sustainer of the universe has a personal interest in you.

XII. The death of Jesus on the cross made the freedom and holiness of evil people possible.

XIII. Paul is warning every man for conversion and teaching every man for maturity in Christ.

A. He did not focus on his great doctrinal treatises.

B. We can do what Paul did in this regard.

C. However, it takes hard work in accordance with God's energy.

D. Do your best, but depend upon God's power to do it.

Application questions

1. What support does the speaker use to claim that our salvation is secure? Is it sound? Explain.

2. Should we expect trials and tribulations? What should be our response?

3. How can it be said that the Christian ought to both work hard and depend upon God?
